I. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A catalyst particle comprising an active metal and a carrier composed of a carbon material, wherein said active metal is supported by cavities having an average diameter of 0.5 to 5 nm formed on a surface of said carrier and their edge portions, and wherein said carrier has an average particle size of 0.01 to 10 μm, wherein said carrier comprises a mesophase carbon composed of oriented crystallites comprising a basal plane having a cyclic structure and an edge having functional groups of –OH and –COOH.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Original) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises at least one carbon material selected from the group consisting of cup-stacked-type carbon, carbon nanotubes, carbon nanofibers and carbon nanohorns.

Claim 4. (Previously Presented) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said carrier comprises an activated carbon having a surface area of 80 to 3000 m^2/g.

Claim 5. (Canceled)

Claim 6. (Original) The catalyst particle according to claim 1, wherein said active metal comprises Ru, Pt or an alloy thereof.

Claim 7. (Previously Presented) A method for dehydrogenation of alcohol comprising contacting the catalyst particle according to claim 1 with an alcohol.